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Preparatory Committee for the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

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Implementation of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

Report submitted by the Republic of Lithuania

Article I

Lithuania views the NPT as the cornerstone of global nuclear non-proliferation regime and the essential foundation for the pursuit of nuclear disarmament. An effective implementation of Article I by nuclear weapon States plays an essential role to curb proliferation of nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices.

Article II

Lithuania abides by its NPT commitment not to receive the transfer of, receive control over, manufacture or acquire nuclear weapons or a nuclear explosive capability. In compliance with its international commitments, the Republic of Lithuania has developed an effective system for the control of export, import and transit of strategic goods with the view to integrate it into the system of export control of the EU and international non-proliferation regimes. Lithuania is committed to implementing the EU Strategy Against Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction agreed in December 2003.

In April 2003 Lithuania informed the NSG Chair and the Director General of the IAEA of its decision to accede to the Nuclear Suppliers Group. Membership application has been submitted and a decision by NSG members is pending.

In response to concerns regarding possible theft, smuggling or use for terrorism purposes of radioactive and nuclear materials, Lithuania has upgraded its national regulatory system ensuring safe management of radioactive sources and the mechanism for recovery and securing of "orphan" sources. New legislation has been adopted to improve the measures against illicit trafficking of radioactive and nuclear materials. Equipment for detection of nuclear and radioactive materials has been installed at the major airport in Lithuania. Actions have been taken to improve the safety and security systems for high activity sealed radioactive sources.

Lithuania fully supported and endorsed the efforts of the IAEA to enhance the safety and security of radioactive sources. In January 2004, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Lithuania has written to the Director General of the IAEA pledging Lithuania's adherence to the IAEA Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources.

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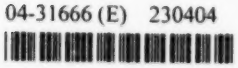

Article III

Lithuania considers the international safeguards system of the IAEA as an absolutely essential basis for the efforts to ensure and maintain international security worldwide. Enhancement of the IAEA Safeguards and worldwide implementation of the Additional Protocol is as a matter of utmost importance. The Additional Protocol must be an integral part of the IAEA Safeguards System.

In the aftermath of the International Conference on Wider Adherence to Strengthened IAEA Safeguards, organised by the Government of Japan in 2002, Lithuania actively engaged in activities of informal Friends of the Additional Protocol, offering itself to act as the Regional Co-ordinator. Lithuania has consistently been advocating for adherence to the Additional Protocol within the Eastern European region, encouraging states to accelerate implementation of Additional Protocol and offering its assistance in sharing national experience gained throughout the implementation process of Additional Protocol since 2000.

In the meantime, Lithuania looks forward to IAEA conclusions regarding the implementation of Safeguards Agreement and its Additional Protocol in Lithuania with a view to proceed with implementation of Integrated Safeguards.

Article IV

In October 2002 the Parliament of the Republic of Lithuania adopted revised National Energy Strategy that determines the terms and conditions of the Ignalina NPP closure in line with the timetable of Lithuania's accession to the European Union.

Lithuania continues strongly support the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. A comprehensive study model for sustainable energy development, comparing different sources of energy production with the nuclear option, has been elaborated. The study examines available sources of energy production including the construction of new nuclear power plant (reactors). At the later stage, this study together with the energy studies of neighbouring countries of Latvia and Estonia will be incorporated into the Baltic Regional Energy Study that will contribute toward a balanced decision on energy policy in the Baltic Region.

Article V

Lithuania ratified the CTBT in February 2000 and undertook all necessary measures to implement its provisions at the national level. Lithuania considers the CTBT as an essential instrument in the global architecture of nuclear disarmament process.

Lithuania actively participated in the Conferences on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (Article XIV Conference) in September 2003. Lithuania fully supports the Final Declaration of the CTBT.

Article VI

The complete elimination of nuclear weapons as affirmed in the Final Documents of the 1995 and 2000 Review Conferences has been Lithuania's objective. Lithuania is convinced that accountability, transparency, irreversibility, and confidence building are fundamental principles that constitute an indispensable framework within which to further the implementation of Article VI.

Lithuania is particularly convinced of the need to follow through the commitment, contained in the Final Document of the 2000 NPT Review Conference, to address the issue of non-strategic nuclear weapons. Verifiable

reductions in these weapons are an integral part of the nuclear arms control and disarmament process. Lithuania agrees on the importance of fulfilling the 1991 and 1992 Presidential Nuclear Initiatives.

At the 58th session of the United Nations General Assembly Lithuania supported the following resolutions dealing with nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament:

- 58/30 "African Nuclear-weapons-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba)";
- 58/31 "Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty of the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean";
- 58/34 "Establishment of a nuclear-weapons-free zone in the region of the Middle East";
- 58/48 "Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction";
- 58/49 "Nuclear-weapons-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas"
- 58/57 "The Conference on Disarmament decision (CD/1547) of 11 August 1998 to establish, under item 1 of its agenda entitled "cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament", ad hoc committee to negotiate, on the basis of the report of the Special Coordinator (CD/1299) and the mandate contained therein, a non-discriminatory, multilateral and international and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices";
- 58/59 "A path to the total elimination of nuclear weapons";
- 58/68 "The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East";
- 58/71 "Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty".

At the 47th Annual Session of the General Conference of the IAEA Lithuania supported following resolutions dealing with nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament:

- GC(47)/RES/8 Nuclear and Radiological Security: Progress on Measures to Protect against Nuclear and Radiological Terrorism;
- GC(47)/RES/11 Strengthening the Effectiveness and Improving the Efficiency of the Safeguards System and Application of the Model Additional Protocol;
- GC(47)/RES/12 Implementation of the NPT Safeguards Agreement Between the Agency and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Lithuania expressed its support to Austria for taking an initiative to launch the amendment process for the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM).

Article VII

While itself not a member of a nuclear-weapons-free zone, Lithuania welcomes and encourages progress to develop and implement nuclear-weapon-free zone agreements consistent with international law and the UNDC guidelines.

Article VIII

The NPT indefinite extension and accompanying decisions adopted in 1995 included a commitment to a Strengthened Treaty Review Process. In this respect, Lithuania attaches great importance to enhancing the performance of and the accountability under the Treaty, in particular by submitting annual reports on implementation of all the articles of the NPT. Such reporting promotes increased confidence in the overall NPT regime and its effectiveness.

Article IX

Lithuania continues to emphasise the importance of universalisation of the NPT and calls on remaining three countries yet outside the Treaty to accede unconditionally to the NPT as non-nuclear-weapon states in accordance with Article IX. Lithuania expressed its deep regret over the withdrawal of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea from the NPT and continues to urge the DPRK to return to full compliance with its international non-proliferation obligations under the NPT including its Safeguards Agreement with the IAEA.